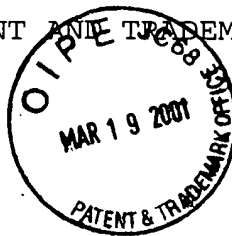


0400
3/27/01

~~0400~~ 3763
#4
6-24-01

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of:

Siegfried EBNER et al.

Serial No.: 09/729,924

Group Art Unit: 3763

Filed: December 6, 2000

For: STERILITY-MAINTAINING CONNECTION SYSTEM FOR MEDICAL SYSTEMS
AND USE THEREOF

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

As a means of complying with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, and in accordance with 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, Applicants, through the undersigned attorney, submit this Information Disclosure Statement. The patents, publications or other information submitted herewith are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and copies are attached. The Examiner is requested to make these references of record in the file of this application. The listed publications were cited in the specification and their relevance is discussed therein.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application. In the event this Information Disclosure Statement is

RECEIVED
MAR 22 2001
TD 3100 MAIL ROOM

filed after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under 37 CFR §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, please charge the fee of \$180.00, as set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p), to Deposit Account No. 06-1358. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON, PRICE, HOLMAN & STERN, PLLC

By: Harvey B. Jacobson, Jr.
Harvey B. Jacobson, Jr.
Reg. No. 20,851

400 Seventh Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-2201
(202) 638-6666
Atty. Dkt. No.: P66152US0
HBJ/dlj
Date: March 19, 2001